

## Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02

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USIA-15 DPW-01 IO-10 SIL-01 /090 W

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R 261734Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0751

INFO AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

UNCLAS PARIS 16633

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PROP, FR, CI

SUBJECT: FORMATION OF A UNIFIED COMMITTEE FOR THE  
DEFENSE OF POLITICAL PRISONERS IN CHILE

1. ACCORDING TO A JUNE 24, 1975 ARTICLE IN LE MONDE, A PRESS CONFERENCE WAS HELD IN PARIS ON JUNE 20 TO ANNOUNCE THE FORMATION OF A COMMITTEE FOR THE DEFENSE OF POLITICAL PRISONERS IN CHILE. ARTICLE NOTED THAT COMMITTEE UNITED THE VARIOUS CHILEAN PARTIES OF THE LEFT AND THE CHILEAN LABOR CONFEDERATION - CUT. THE STATED AIMS OF THE GROUP ARE TO (A) DISSEMINATE INFORMATION ON THE CONDITION OF POLITICAL PRISONERS IN CHILE WORLD WIDE, (B) ASSIST IN THEIR DEFENSE, (C) SUPPORT THEIR FAMILIES FINANCIALLY, AND (D) LAUNCH A CAMPAIGN ON BEHALF OF THE ESTIMATED 2,000 PERSONS CONSIDERED MISSING. GROUP CLAIMED 6,000 PRISONERS CURRENTLY BEING HELD.

2. COMMITTEE PLANS CAMPAIGN TO SHOW REPEATED VIOLATIONS OF LAW DECREE L0,009 DESCRIBED AS HABEAS CORPUS EQUIVALENT. THIERRY MIGNON, A PARIS LAWYER, TOLD PRESS CONFERENCE HE HAD CONDUCTED INVESTIGATION IN CHILE AND DETERMINED THAT LAW 10,009 WAS NOT BEING APPLIED TO THOSE ARRESTED BEFORE ITS DECREE. MR'

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OSCAR ESPINOSA AND MRS. PATRICIA BARCELO, A PHYSICIAN,

DESCRIBED AS RECENTLY RELEASED PRISONERS, TALKED AT CONFERENCE. THEY DESCRIBED "TORTURE CENTERS" (NOT DETAILED IN ARTICLE) EXCEPT THAT WIVES WERE TORTURED IN FRONT OF HUSBANDS, "CONCENTRATION CAMPS", AND GOOD MORALE AND ORGANIZATION OF PRISONERS. MRS' BARCELO ALSO CLAIMED TO HAVE WITNESSED TORTURE OF FRENCH CITIZEN ALPHONSE RENE CHANFREAU.

3. ADDRESS GIVEN FOR CONTRIBUTIONS TO COMMITTEE WAS CARE OF AMITIES FRANCO-CHILIENNES, 3 RUE DE L'ABBAYE, 75006 PARIS.

4. COMMENT: FRENCH PUBLIC INTEREST IN EVENTS IN CHILE HAS DIMINISHED LINEARLY WITH TIME. GIVEN THE PAST QUARRELS BETWEEN THE VARIOUS CHILEAN EXILE GROUPS HERE, WE DOUBT THIS COMMITTEE WILL COALESCE THE EXILE GROUPS OR STIR MUCH PUBLIC INTEREST. SPECIFIC MENTION OF THE CUT WOULD SUGGEST FRENCH CP INTEREST IN THE COMMITTEE, BUT L'HUMANITE HAS YET TO MAKE MENTION OF THE PRESS CONFERENCE OR OF THE COMMITTEE.

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**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
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